

Minnie Hauck. A New York paper, referring to a ridiculous biography of Miss Minnie Hauck which recently appeared in the Paris Figaro, gives what professes to be an authentic history of the young American cantatrice, who has recently appeared with much success in London and Paris.

Munichhausen, in his most brilliant hour, never related a wilder fabrication. It will be remembered that, after sketching the childhood of Minnie as that of a prodigy, it tells of her father's going out to Kansas, where he had a neighbor, Mr. Leonard Jerome, a Northern man (rather) that the Indians seized Mr. Jerome, laid him across a railway track, and how Minnie rushed among them and rescued the Northern man by dragging him from the track just as the approaching train was about to hit him up into very small pieces.

We hope, if good can come out of this kind of thing, that Miss Hauck has felt the benefit of the tale in the quickened sympathy of her Parisian audiences. Whether the Figaro will accept the correct version or not, we are tempted to give our readers the benefit of a brief sketch of the true history of the young cantatrice.

Minnie Hauck was born in this city; we won't say when, we never suggest the age of an unmarried lady; suffice it to say that Minnie is young and blooming. When she was about six years old her parents moved to Providence, Rhode Island, where they lived for several years, then returned to New York. Owing to a misfortune on their return journey, they lost all the goods they had with them, arriving in the city very poor indeed.

Mr. Hauck went bravely to work at his trade of upholstering, "saving all earnings to the innermost," and ultimately getting enough money together to take his family to Kansas, then a territory, and towards which the tide of emigration had set in strongly. Here they remained but two years, as the health of Mr. Hauck gave way rapidly, the climate being ungenial. Before leaving Kansas, however, Minnie gave evidence of remarkable musical talent, and becoming the pet of musical friends there, received her first lessons from them.

Up to this time she did not know a single note of music, yet sang readily every air sung in her presence. From Kansas the Haucks moved to New Orleans, where Mr. Hauck readily found employment. One day while sitting singing at her father's door, Minnie was accosted by a gentleman named Choate, who was charmed by her sweet voice, and who, having made himself known to her father, offered to become her teacher. The offer was gladly accepted, and Minnie, for the first time, began to study vocal music scientifically.

She soon began to sing in church, where her voice attracted much attention. She was then about fourteen years old. Her appreciative friends gave up two concerts for her, which were admirably successful, and which enabled Minnie to help her good parents in their struggles in her own behalf. Advised by those who recognized Minnie's talent, Mr. Hauck concluded to return to New York once more, where it was believed that Minnie would have a better field and where she might possibly obtain a position in the opera.

He brought letters of recommendation to Max Maretzek, to whom he presented them, and with them his young daughter. By M. Maretzek she was introduced to Signor Ermani, the well-known tenor and accomplished teacher, who at once took upon himself the task of educating the young lady, and did so with all the enthusiasm of his kindly nature. Had she been his own daughter he could not have been more devoted to her, more ambitious of her success. She studied hard, her father working persistently at his trade to sustain the family. After a year's study, Minnie was fortunate enough to make the acquaintance of Mr. Seguin, at whose residence she took a leading part in some pleasant entertainments, gotten up mainly on her account.

Its gorgeous mantles—so covered with embroidery in gold and pearls—that the velvet is scarcely visible—fill the safe, along the sides of the sanctuary, and as the wedding costume worn by any member of the royal family is the prerogative of this state, its wealth has always been increasing. Among the treasures of the Cathedral of Valencia, and side by side with the first shirt worn by the infant Jesus, and the skeleton of one of the Holy Innocents, is the golden countess of the Holy Innocents, a beautiful crown of workmanship, with its set of both sides, and is richly jeweled. A beautiful casket in the same cathedral contains the *santo caliz*, or cup, used by Jesus Christ at the Last Supper. It is of fine onyx, studded with gems of rare value, has two golden handles, and a stand of the same metal. These treasures are not of great value, but they are of peculiar interest, and only a few are allowed to all probability, or inquiry the Spanish bigotry which reveres them has become. In the sanctuary of the splendid Cathedral of Toledo—a vast and magnificent saloon, painted by Luc Jordan in the seventeenth century—there are four statues of massive silver, representing the four quarters of the world, each figure leaning on a globe. The Custodia, or keeping-place for the Host, is more than nine feet high, wrought of massive gold and silver, very valuable, and studded with diamonds and other ornaments of the Virgin del Sagrario, an image which is much venerated, is a royal crown of pure gold, studded with large diamonds and emeralds, with bracelets to match. She once possessed a necklace of diamonds of almost priceless value, but it was stolen by Mendizabel, during the civil war, and given by him to his mistress. Her mantles are of gold brocade, embroidered with large pearls, and the altar on which she stands is of solid silver. Behind her is an octagonal chapel containing riches, in jewels, crosses, vases, and statues, that would go far towards the purchase of a principality. In the cathedral hundreds of priests appear in robes of gold and silver tissues, and underneath the richest lace and most costly needlework. The canons wear jeweled collars of great value, such for value as have never been worn at Rome but upon the person of the Pontiff himself. A list of the treasures of Nuestra Señora de Montserrat, fills a volume. Most of the Roman Catholic sovereigns of Europe, with countless princes and nobles, have made some offering to this doll; but it is a curious fact that, while cardinals, archbishops, and bishops have presented costly robes, lamps, and jewels, the Pope, with the exception of Adrian VI, who offered a lamp and 200 *ducats*, have contented themselves with sending orders to the sanctuary, and granting indulgences. In the treasury of the principal chapel there are two silver lamps, each of which weighs one hundred and twenty-five pounds, presented by Philip II (of Spain) and Philip IV; a third lamp, exquisitely chased, weighing one hundred and fifty pounds, was given by the Grand Duke of Tuscany, in 1669. A silver ship, weighing one hundred and twenty-five pounds, of most delicate and beautiful workmanship, was the gift of the Marques de Castel Rodrigo in 1682. A lamp, value 600 *ducats*, was presented by the Queen of Henry IV of France. All these objects are of pure silver, together with the iron and the five steps of the grand altar; and besides these treasures there is a throne of the same metal. On high festival days twenty-four candelabra are wheeled out from the sanctuary, and stand before the grand altar; all are of solid silver, and twelve of them are five feet high; six silver candelsticks, thirty-two inches high, are used for the daily service. There are three silver gilt crosses borne in the procession, adorned with jewels, the largest of which weighs one hundred pounds; two rods of silver gilt, one with an emerald of great value; twenty-six chalices and nine salvers. But these are nothing when compared with the gems. The image of the Virgin Mary has three crowns almost covered with diamonds, emeralds, sapphires, and rubies, presented by different worshippers. One of these crowns was made by a Flemish monk in the convent, who spent twenty-seven years in the fabrication of this and a similar one for the image of the infant Jesus. Nearly as rich in church treasures is Seville. During the processions of the Holy Week, when all the churches send out statues larger than life into the public streets, an almost incalculable amount of treasure is displayed. These wooden images are more than royally apparelled, for some of the velvet robes are twenty feet long, and so covered with pearls and gold embroidery that no human being could sustain their weight. One of the mantles is of dark blue velvet and gold, and was presented by the late Queen of the French, Marie Amélie. Almost the whole figure is dazzling with jewels, and the statues from the principal churches have always a crown of diamonds. Some of the processions go through the streets at night, and on these occasions the platforms on which the groups of images are borne are lighted with hundreds of silver lamps.

ISABELLA. She Speaks at Last. The Paris journals a few days back published a manifesto purporting to be addressed by Queen Isabella to the Spanish people, but which was afterwards declared to be a forgery. At present the real document has made its appearance, and is thus worded:— The Cortes illegally convoked, and for the most part elected by violent and fraudulent means, we opened it to assemble on the invitation of four ambitious men, who, having seduced the army and called even criminals to their assistance, succeeded in subverting through the terror they inspired their cowardly and disastrous tyranny for the constitution they had nearly all sworn to defend, for the religion, laws, and customs of our country, and for the rights they reduced to anarchy, and are raining day by day.

The moment has arrived when you, gentlemen, senators, and deputies of the legitimate Cortes and the entire nation—the impassive witnesses of so great a scandal—ought to hear my voice. The heroes of Palenque and St. Ferdinand cannot long regard such a spectacle without at least raising their voice in protest. It is known to me, to all that I prize in the most solemn and categorical manner, I declare all that has been done or is about being done, is null and void, and I reserve to myself the right of which I cannot be deprived by any man who lay claim to powers which nobody but the Spirit of God, which directs their acts, can confer upon them.

Every one is not aware how they have been able to reduce unhappy Spain to the sad condition in which she is at present, to the tumultuous cries which proclaimed a universal and overbearing will, they have been enabled to substitute for the supreme power of the sovereign, united with God—the most ancient and the most legitimate public right in Spain—a theory as impossible in practice as it is in theory in appearance.

Let us all unite, then, to remedy the general anarchy, and let each of us in our sphere of action do his duty in the name of God, to prevent the laws from being trampled under foot, bad passions fomented, legitimate rights annihilated, the temples of Jesus Christ overthrown.

—The famine so long dreaded in India has come at last, and is spreading fast in largely populated districts. The Government is making every effort to relieve distress by furnishing both food and employment to those who need them. To one native State the sum of £10,000 has been lent on the security of its revenues, to be used in this way.

PHILADELPHIA, January 18, 1899. Messrs. FARREL, HERRING & CO., No. 629 Chesnut Street. Gentlemen:—On the night of the 13th inst., as is well known to the citizens of Philadelphia, our large and extensive store and valuable stock of merchandise, No. 629 Chesnut Street was burned.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 18, 1899. Messrs. FARREL, HERRING & CO., No. 629 Chesnut Street. Gentlemen:—I had one of your make of safes in the basement of J. E. Caldwell & Co.'s store at the time of the great fire on the night of the 13th inst. It was removed from the ruins to-day, and on opening it I found all my books, papers, greenbacks, watches, and watch materials, etc., all preserved. I feel glad that had one of your truly valuable safes, and shall want another of your make when I get located.

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFE CHAMPION SAFES!

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PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 18, 1899. Messrs. FARREL, HERRING & CO., No. 629 Chesnut Street. Gentlemen:—On the night of the 13th inst. our large store, S. W. corner of Ninth and Chesnut streets, was, together with our heavy stock of wall papers, entirely destroyed by fire.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 19, 1899. Messrs. FARREL, HERRING & CO., No. 629 Chesnut Street. Gentlemen:—I had one of your make of safes in the basement of J. E. Caldwell & Co.'s store at the time of the great fire on the night of the 13th inst. It was removed from the ruins to-day, and on opening it I found all my books, papers, greenbacks, watches, and watch materials, etc., all preserved.

FARREL, HERRING & CO., CHAMPION SAFES, No. 629 CHESNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

FROM THE GREAT FIRE IN MARKET STREET. HERRING'S PATENT SAFES Again the Champion! THE ONLY SAFE THAT PRESERVES ITS CONTENTS UNCHANGED.

LETTER FROM T. MORRIS PERROT & CO. PHILADELPHIA, Twelfth Month 28, 1898. Messrs. Farrel, Herring & Co., No. 629 Chesnut Street.—Gentlemen:—It is with great pleasure that we add our testimony to the value of your Patent Champion safe.

HERRING'S PATENT CHAMPION SAFES, THE VICTORS IN MORE THAN 100 ACCIDENTAL FIRES. Awarded the Prize Medal at the World's Fair, London, 1883, and the Gold Medal at the Exposition Universelle, Paris, 1889.

FARREL, HERRING & CO., No. 629 CHESNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA. C. L. MAISER, MANUFACTURER OF FIRE AND BURGLAR-PROOF SAFES, LOCKSMITH, REPAIRER, AND DEALER IN BUILDING HARDWARE, No. 424 RACE STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

GENT'S FURNISHING GOODS. H. S. K. G. Hattie's Seamless Kid Gloves.

EVERY PAIR WARRANTED. EXCLUSIVE AGENTS FOR GENT'S GLOVES. J. W. SCOTT & CO., 117 1/2 No. 814 CHESTNUT STREET. PATENT SHOULDER-BEAM SHIRT MANUFACTORY, AND GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING STORE.

GOVERNMENT SALES. ST. LOUIS ARSENAL, ST. LOUIS, MO., FEBRUARY 23, 1899. PUBLIC SALE OF CONDEMNED ORDNANCE AND ORDNANCE STORES.—Will be offered for sale, at public auction, at the St. Louis Arsenal, St. Louis, Mo., commencing on FUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1899, at 10 o'clock A. M., a large amount of condemned Ordnance and Ordnance Stores, etc., consisting in part of the following articles, viz.:

51 cast iron field guns, with carriages and implements. 199 cast iron guns, various, total weight about 530 tons. 480 tons cannon balls, 6 to 42 pounds. 30 artilery carriages, various. 600 artilery wheel harness, for two horses. 4,800 sporting rifles and shot guns, various. 10,233 carbines and rifles, various. 14,411 revolvers, various. 123,000 cartridge boxes, various. 15,000 cavalry saddles, various. 3,000 artilery saddles, various. 23,159 carb bridges, various. 10,610 watering bridges, various. 15,000 halters, various. 14,488 muskets, various. 401,985 pounds of cannon powder. 828,450 pounds of mortar powder. 777,880 pounds of musket powder. 4,200 pounds of rifle powder. 19,140 pounds of damaged powder. 50,834,000 musket and pistol percussion caps. Wrought and cast iron scrap, etc.

GOVERNMENT SALES. Will be sold at Public Auction, by H. B. SMITHSON, Auctioneer, at Allegheny Arsenal, Pittsburgh, Pa., on Wednesday, March 24, 1899, the following articles, viz.: 16,384 Solid Shot (round). 2,829 Stands of Grape and Carcasses. 3,327 Cartridges, new, unused, rusty, etc. 1,210 U. S. Muskets, Cal. 54 and 55, repaired, rusty, etc. 4,817 Enfield Muskets, repaired. 4,371 Foreign Muskets and Rifles, rusty, etc. 1,130 U. S. Muskets, Cal. 54 and 55, repaired. 2,279 Pistols and Revolvers, new, repaired, and rusty. 4,000 Sets of Military Accoutrements of 1861. 33,182 Pounds of Cannon, Musket, and Rifle Powder. 100,000 Pistol Cartridges (Lefaucheur & Westcott). 1,300,000 Maynard's and Sharp's Primers. 6,282 Musket Bayonets. 100,000 Pounds of Scrap Iron, Cast and Wrought.

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INSURANCE. DELAWARE MUTUAL SAFETY INSURANCE COMPANY.

Office S. E. corner of THIRD and WALNUT Streets, Philadelphia. MAKE INSURANCES On Vessels, Cargo, and Freight to all parts of the world. FIRE INSURANCES On goods by river, canal, lake and land carriage to all parts of the Union. FIRE INSURANCES On Merchandise generally, on Stores, Dwellings, Houses, etc.

ASSETS OF THE COMPANY, November 1, 1898. \$200,000 United States Five Per Cent. Loan, 1891-1892. 120,000 United States Six Per Cent. Loan, 1881-1892. 50,000 United States Five Per Cent. Loan (for Pacific R.). 200,000 State of Pennsylvania Six Per Cent. Bonds. 125,000 City of Philadelphia Six Per Cent. Loan (except from tax). 50,000 State of New Jersey Six Per Cent. Bonds. 20,000 Penn. Rail. First Mortgage Six Per Cent. Bonds. 25,000 Penn. R. Second Mortgage Six Per Cent. Bonds. 25,000 Western Penn. R. Mort. Six Per Cent. Bonds. 30,000 State of Tennessee Five Per Cent. Loan. 15,000 Germantown Gas Co. Principal and Interest guaranteed by City of Philadelphia. 10,000 Penn'a Railroad Company. 5,000 North Penn'a Railroad Co. 100 shares Stock. 20,000 Phila and Southern Mail Bonds. 207,900 Loans on Bond and Mortgage, first liens on City Properties.

THOMAS C. HAND, President. EDWARD A. STOKES, Vice-President. HENRY LYLEBURN, Secretary. HENRY BALL, Assistant Secretary.

1829—CHARTER PERPETUAL. Franklin Fire Insurance Co. OF PHILADELPHIA. OFFICE: Nos. 455 and 457 CHESTNUT STREET. ASSETS ON JANUARY 1, 1898. \$2,603,740-00.

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INSURANCE. STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE METROPOLITAN INSURANCE CO.

On the First Day of January, 1899. FIRST. Capital Stock \$300,000.00. Amount of assessments on installments on stock paid in cash 300,000.00. SECOND. The value as nearly as may be of the Real Estate held by the Company 3,600.00. Cash on hand 24,730.00. Cash in Banks 26,738.84. Cash in hands of Agents in course of transmission 6,000.00.

Amount of Losses during the year, adjusted but not paid 5,707.97. Amount of losses reported to the Company but not acted upon 35,320.20. Amount of dividends due and unpaid 1,500.00. Amount of all other claims against the Company, contested or otherwise 2,779.26. Amount of cash premiums received 194,827.55. Amount of premiums earned 190,018.33. Interest received from investments 29,849.17. Income from all other sources, specifying what sources 5,189.69.

AMOUNT OF LOSSES PAID DURING THE YEAR 130,748.72. Amount of return premiums, whether paid or reported to the Company 2,738.19. Amount of dividends paid during the year 10,500.00. Amount of dividends due and unpaid 9,000.00. Amount of all other claims against the year, including commissions and fees paid to agents and officers of the Company 54,017.01. Amount of taxes paid by the Company 10,105.47. Amount of all other expenses and expenditures 20,342.41.

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